

U.S. Application 10/691,715  
Amendment dated: November 19, 2007  
Reply to Office Action of September 21, 2007

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Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-9 (canceled):

Claim 10 (previously presented): The system of claim 16, wherein the scroll bar is oriented in one of an orthogonal, a parallel, an acute and an obtuse angle with respect to an axis of the viewing region.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The system of claim 16, wherein the user identifies the item of interest by highlighting the item via at least one of a mouse, a keystroke and an audio stimulus.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The system of claim 16, wherein the user removes the graphical indicator from the scroll bar via ~~one of~~ unhighlighting the item of interest ~~and deleting the graphical indicator.~~

Claim 13 (previously presented): the system of claim 16, wherein the user returns to the item of interest via one of moving the slider proximate to the graphical indicator and invoking the graphical indicator.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The system of claim 16, wherein the graphical indicator is invoked via one or more of a mouse, a keystroke and an audio stimulus.

Claim 15 (previously presented): the system of claim 13, wherein invoking the graphical indicator automatically returns the item of interest within the viewing region.

Claim 16 (currently amended): A system comprising:

stored computer executable instructions that, when executed by a data processing device, provide a graphical user interface comprising:

- a viewing region that provides ~~the a first~~ user a window to observe at least a portion of information from a set of information;
- a scroll bar that maps to the set of information;

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a slider associated with the scroll bar that is moved relative to the scroll bar to determine at least a portion of information that is displayed within the viewing region; ~~and~~

a location component that obtains a location of ~~an user-identified~~ item of interest ~~identified by the first user~~, generates a graphical indicator for the item of interest and maps the graphical indicator to the scroll bar to provide the ~~first~~ user with a visible indication of the location of the item of interest within the set of information; ~~and~~

a storage component, residing in connection with the location component in a shared environment, that stores the location of the item of interest identified by the first user;

wherein the system is configured ~~for to allow a second user access to the storage component~~ a user to change the location of the item of interest by moving the graphical indicator.

Claim 17 (currently amended): The system of claim 16, wherein the location component is further employed to generate and associate graphical indicators for one or more additional user-identified items of interest.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The system of claim 16, wherein the graphical indicator is visible within the slider when the item of interest is visible within the viewing window.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The system of claim 16, wherein the graphical indicator dynamically changes in size in response to a change in size in the set of information in order to maintain a relative indication of the percentage of information represented by the graphical indicator relative to the set of information.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The system of claim 16, further comprising one or more additional scroll bars that are employed in connection with one or more additional sliders to provide for multi-dimensional tracking of the item of interest.

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Claim 21 (previously presented): The system of claim 16 further comprising an intelligence component that facilitates adding and removing the graphical indicator and returning the item of interest to the viewing region.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The system of claim 21, wherein the intelligence component comprising at least one of a statistic, a probability, an inference and a classifier.

Claim 23 (currently amended): A method comprising:

receiving an input associated with a user-identified point of focus within a list  
from a first user of a plurality of users in a shared environment;

obtaining a location of the user-identified point of focus within the list;

storing the location of the user-identified point of focus;

adding a first graphical indicator to the scroll bar, the first graphical indicator provides a relative location of the user-identified point of focus within the list; and

changing the location of the point of focus based on user-input from any one  
second user of the plurality of users in the shared environment. ~~moving the graphical indicator on the scroll bar.~~

Claim 24 (previously presented): The method of claim 23, further comprising adding a second graphical indicator to the scroll bar, the second graphical indicator is associated with a second user-identified point of focus within the list; and

changing the location of the second point of focus based on user input moving the second graphical indicator on the scroll bar.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The method of claim 24, wherein the second graphical indicator is differentiated from the first graphical indicator by at least one of color, size, shape, and position.

Claim 26 (original): The method of claim 23, further comprising positioning a pointer proximate to the graphical indicia to obtain information indicative of the point of focus.

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Claim 27 (currently amended): A method comprising:

selecting a graphical indicator on a scroll bar, said graphical indicator associated with a point of focus;

obtaining a position of the point of focus from the graphical indicator;

utilizing the position to locate the point of focus within data;

changing the location of the point of focus based on user input from a first user moving the graphical indicator on the scroll bar; and

changing the location of the point of focus based on user input from a second user moving the graphical indicator on the scroll bar.

Claim 28 (original): The method of claim 27, further comprising positioning a pointer over the graphical indicator to obtain information indicative of the point of focus in order to facilitate selecting the desired graphical indicator from a plurality of graphical indicators.

Claim 29 (original): The method of claim 27, further comprising invoking the graphical indicator to automatically return the point of focus to the user.

Claim 30 (original): The method of claim 27, further comprising manually navigating a slider proximate to the graphical indicator to return the point of focus to the user.

Claim 31 (currently amended): ~~An apparatus. A system~~ comprising:

means for identifying foci;

means for generating graphical indicia associated with the foci;

means for associating the graphical indicia with a positioning mechanism; ~~and~~

means for employing the positioning mechanism in connection with the graphical indicia to view the foci; and

means for moving the graphical indicia to change the location of the associated foci based on user input from a first user in a shared environment, and to change the

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location of the associate foci based on user input from a second user in the shared environment to change the location of the associated foci.

Claim 32 (previously presented): The system of claim 20, further comprising associating an additional graphical indicator corresponding to one of the additional one or more scroll bars with the graphical indicator corresponding to the item of interest.

Claim 33 (previously presented): The system of claim 32, wherein the graphical user interface, upon receiving user input selecting any graphical indicator corresponding to the item of interest, automatically moves all sliders proximately to a location on each corresponding scroll bar of the graphical indicator corresponding to the item of interest.